IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows. Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 2 at line 7 to read as follows:

Each conductive strand is typically sheathed with an inexpensive insulation, such as DACRON fiber glass (which has a relatively open weave with small porous micro-openings), to insulate the individual strands from each other. The insulated strands are then roebelled. A filler is pressed into the roebel offsets (i.e. open space between the roebelled insulated strands). The filler is advantageously conductive, such as a resin rich felt or mica, to inhibit it from undergoing partial electrical discharge activity and to meet the power factor tip-up requirements in order to maintain a high resistance between strands. Since the conductive filler can electrically pass or bleed through the openings in the DACRON fiberfill glass strand insulation to the conductive strands (and/or vice-versa), low resistance electrical connections among the strands and/or filler can exist.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 3 at line 6 to read as follows:

One aspect of the present invention thus involves an electrical isolation layer system comprising, a first conductive material comprising a plurality of copper strands; a second conductive material comprising a roebel filler; and a NOMEX fiber spun laced felt having a dielectric strength of at least 300 volts per millimeter interposed at least partially between the copper strands and the roebel filler.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 6 at line 14 to read as follows:

Figures 1 and 2 show axially extending slots 12 formed along the stator 10. The slots 12 are sized and configured to accept and secure at least one strand assembly 14 (or vice-versa). Each strand assembly 14 preferably comprises a plurality of transposed (e.g. roebelled) conductive (e.g. copper) strands 16 that are sheathed by an insulator 18 (e.g. DACRON fiber-glass), with a conductive filler 20 (e.g. mica) disposed about (completely or partially) the insulated 18 strands 16, and an isolation layer 22 disposed about (completely or partially) the conductive filler 20. As is understood by those skilled in the art, many other types of transpositions, strands 16, insulators 18, and fillers 20 can be used to form the strand assembly 14. Additional elements can also be used.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 7 at line 15 to read as follows:

The isolation layer 22 should have a dielectric strength of at least 300 volts per millimeter and preferably at least 500 volts per millimeter. Suitable dielectrics include polymers such as polyphenylene sulfide, polythiophene, polyacetylene and polypropylene, glass such as E-glass and S-glass, epoxy, resin, fabrics having NOMEX fiber, KEVLAR fiber or similar fibers, mica, and the like. NOMEX and KELVAR are registered trademarks of E.I. DuPont De Nemours and Company.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 8 at line 15 to read as follows:

The isolation layer 22 should be capable of withstanding the environment within which it operates, including withstanding stator temperatures of at least 130° C and preferably at least 155° C. Suitable materials include resins, plastics, NOMEX fiber, epoxies, and the like.